

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 303763  
ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 OES-06 INT-05 /036 R

DRAFTED BY COMM/NOAA/NMFS:MBENEFIEL:EW  
APPROVED BY OES/OFA/FA:LMNAKATSU  
COMM/NOAA/NMFS:DWEIDNER  
COMM/OIM/SSA:MADERHOLD (SUBS)  
ST E-NEA/INS:JGRAHAME (SUBS)  
STATE-OES/OFA/FA:LMNAKATSU  
STATE-OES/OFA/MST:RDEHAAN

----- 012346 /43

R 151558Z DEC 76  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMCONSUL BOMBAY  
AMCONSUL MADRAS  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, IN

SUBJECT: INDIAN FISHERIES CATCHES AND SEAFOOD EXPORTS

REF: A) NEW DELHI 13660, 1976, B) BOMBAY A-42, 1975,  
C) NEW DELHI A-231, 1975, D) NEW DELHI A-123, 1975,  
E) MADRAS 1554, 1974, F) NEW DELHI 16099, 1974.

1. THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS), NOAA, COMMERCE, IS PREPARING A SUMMARY REPORT ON RECENT TRENDS IN INDIAN FISHERIES FOR PUBLICATION IN A U.S. FISHING INDUSTRY TRADE JOURNAL. EMBASSY AND CONSULATE ASSISTANCE IS REQUESTED TO SUPPLEMENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON. POST REPOSENSE IS REQUESTED BY JANUARY 10 TO MEET PUBLICATION DEADLINE.

2. SINCE EXCELLENT REPORTING IN REFS C AND D ON 1973-74 AND 1974-75 SHRIMP SEASONS, NMFS HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY POST  
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REPORT ON 1975 OR 1976 SHRIMP SEASONS OR ON INDIAN

SEAFOOD COMMODITY TRADE. JAPANESE IMPORT DATA FOR THE FIRST 9 MONTHS OF 1976 SHOW THAT IMPORTS OF INDIAN SHRIMP DECREASED 15 PERCENT IN QUANTITY BUT INCREASED 62 PERCENT IN VALUE FROM THE COMPARABLE PERIOD OF 1975. POST IDENTIFICATION AND APPRAISAL OF THE SHRIMP, CATCH AND MARKET SITUATION FOR 1975 AND 1976 IS REQUESTED.

3. NMFS IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN INDIA'S FISHERY EXPORT COMMODITIES COMING TO U.S. MARKET. U.S. IMPORT DATA FOR FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1976 SHOW TOTAL SEAFOOD IMPORTS FROM INDIA INCREASED 53 PERCENT IN QUANTITY, 90 PERCENT IN VALUE FROM COMPARABLE 1975 PERIOD. POST COMMENT ON THIS TREND, ESPECIALLY WITH REFERENCE TO FROZEN SHRIMP, LOBSTER TAILS, AND FROGS LEGS IS REQUESTED.

4. ACCORDING TO FDA DATA, 1.3 MILLION DOLLARS OF FISHERY IMPORTS FROM INDIA WAS DETAINED AT U.S. PORTS OF ENTRY BETWEEN JANUARY 1 AND SEPTEMBER 3, 1976, FOR SUCH REASONS AS SHORT WEIGHT, DECOMPOSITION, INADEQUATE LABELING, PRESENCE OF SALMONELLA BACTERIA OR FLIES. THIS PROBLEM HAS BEEN A TOPIC OF BILATERAL CONCERN AND POST REPORT ON INDIA'S DOMESTIC MEASURES TO CONTROL QUALITY AND IMPROVE SANITARY CONDITIONS OF PROCESSING PLANTS IS REQUESTED.

5. REPORT IN REF C LEADS TO QUESTION ON IMPORT LICENSING SYSTEM. IS THIS SYSTEM STILL A PRIME MOTIVATION FOR INDIAN SEAFOOD INDUSTRY? ARE RICH BUT UNEXPLOITED SHRIMP GROUNDS (REF C) OFF WEST BENGAL AND ORISSA NOW BEING FISHED COMMERCIALY?

6. BOMBAY IS REQUESTED TO UPDATE REPORT IN REF B ON UNDP AND BILATERAL AID FOR COASTAL FISHERIES SURVEY WORK AND RESEARCH VESSEL CONSTRUCTION FOR INCLUSION IN REPORT. NEW DELHI IS REQUESTED TO UPDATE LIST IN REF F OF LEADING INDIAN EXPORTERS OF LOBSTER AND SHRIMP. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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7. NMFS REQUESTS EMBASSY CONCURRENCE IN DECLASSIFICATION OF PARAGRAPHS 1, 7, 9-10, AND 17-19 OF REF A IN ORDER TO PUT FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT INTO CONTEXT OF INDIA'S BUDGET FOR MARINE SCIENCES AND ECONOMIC PLAN. OES/OFA/MST OFFICER HAS NO OBJECTION TO NMFS REQUEST FOR DECLASSIFICATION.

8. NMFS REQUESTES MADRAS CONCURRENCE IN DECLASSIFICATION

AND PUBLICATION OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF LEADING  
INDIAN SEAFOOD EXPORTERS LISTED IN REF E WITHOUT CONFI-  
DENTIAL QUANTITY AND VALUE INFORMATION.

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## Message Attributes

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